



into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciples will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit; people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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REMOVING THE PLANK

I lived once with a senior priest who was rather prone to correcting the faults of others and putting them right when he thought they had got things wrong. Asked once by a younger member of the community whether he had ever been wrong himself, he replied: 'Just once—when I thought I'd made a mistake but then discovered that I had been right all along'!

That man did a lot of good work over a long life. But perhaps he hadn't reflected on Jesus' words in today's Gospel today as much as he did on other parts of Scripture.

The illustrations to which Jesus appeals—one blind person leading another; attempting to remove the splinter in a neighbour's eye when one has a plank in one's own—are exaggerated and humorous. The original hearers probably fell about laughing. It seems that Jesus often appealed to images like these in order to penetrate people's defences and get them to think. It hard enough to know what is in one's own heart—to recognise the 'plank' that may be there, inhibiting right vision and accurate judgement. Yet, even so, we are still confident that we can see and so we set about commenting upon and seeking to root out the failings of others.

If God, who really does see the heart, acts with such generosity, understanding and compassion, then that—not judgement and condemnation—should surely be the model for human interaction.

Jesus' final image in the Gospel invites us to ask what our thoughts, words and actions say about our own hearts.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Sir 27: 4-7

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 91: 2-3, 13-16. R. cf. v. 2

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord / to make music to your name, O Most High, / to proclaim your love in the morning / and your truth in the watches of the night. **R.**
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree / and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **R.**
3. Planted in the house of the Lord / they will flourish in the courts of our God, / still bearing sap when they are old, / still full sap, still green, / to proclaim that the Lord is just. / In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 15: 54-58

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is



sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 2: 15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 6: 39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples. 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall

St Clement of Rome Church

Address: Egan Drive, Bulleen 3105 - **Phone:** 9850 3262, **Fax:** 9850 2550
Email: bulleen@cam.org.au, **Web:** www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au
Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9.00am-4.30pm & Fri 9:00am-2:00pm



Parish Priest : Monsignor Franco Cavarra (Parish Office 9850 3262) or (Presbytery 9850 6073)
Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Heenan (9850 1216)
Pastoral Associate: Cecilia Tan (9850 3262), **Assistant Pastoral Associate :** Franka Waters
Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262)
Clifton Centre: Mary Hansen (9850 1860) **St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1800 305 330)**

Lent 2019

Please read the Lenten Regulations for 2019 displayed on the Notice Board in the Foyer. **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.**

Ash Wednesday—6th March

Two Masses will be held. School Mass at 9.15am and Parish Mass at 7pm.

Stations of the Cross

Will commence on Friday 8th March at 10am (English) after 9.15am Mass and Tuesday 12th March at 8.45am (Italian) before the 9.15am Mass and will continue until the Holy Week. All welcome to attend.

Project Compassion

Boxes and envelopes will be available on the 9th/10th March Weekend in the Foyer to be collected.

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council was commissioned at all the Masses in last weekend of Advent. The following are members of the council for the next two years (2019-2020):

Chair: Sue De Bortoli
Vice-Chair: Joe Cataldo
Secretary: Martin Teh
School Representative: Max Graziano
Other Members: Giorgio Baglieri (11.00am); Gabriella Grande (9.00am); Mark Gregor (9.00am); Alwin Ho (5.30pm); Rene Dela Cruz (5.30pm), Jacinta Dela Cruz (Young Adults)
Ex-Officio: Mgr. Franco Cavarra, PP; Cecilia Tan, Pastoral Associate.

Three meetings were held to reflect on leadership, mission and role of the council in responding actively to the needs of the parish.

Parishioners are encouraged to be familiar with the council members who for the next few weeks will be at the door to meet and greet you before or after Mass. They can be your contact persons if you have any concerns about parish matters you would like to bring up to the council. Photographs of members are on the parish notice board. Please take time to be familiar with the council members and introduce yourselves to them.

Meditation on Jesus

Guided meditation classes will be freely offered to parishioners, provided sufficient numbers and times can be established. Please contact the Parish Office if interested. A brief explanation on the benefits of meditation will be given to who may be interested.

TEMPORARY FENCING ON GROUNDS

With the encouraging increasing enrolments at our Primary School, works have now commenced to beautify and landscape the areas on both sides of the Church as a memorial garden and a peace garden of prayer and to provide a much needed safer playing area for the children, behind the Church.

During school hours, playing areas and gates will be kept securely closed to assure ongoing safety for our children at all times.

Thank you for your ongoing understanding and patience while the works are carried out.

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am, 11am (Italian) & 6pm (Maronite Community Mass)

Tues 9:15am (Italian), Wed-Sat 9:15am. **Eucharistic Adoration:** Tues-Fri 8-9am (in the Chapel)

Reconciliation: Sat 10am (and on request). **Marian Devotions:** Sat 8.40am.

Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. **Weddings:** By Appointment.

Recently Deceased : Amelita Esmeralda

Death Anniversaries : Giuseppe Marinelli, Giuseppe Addamo, Carmelo Galota, Francesco Barretta, Antonina Salvatore , Giuseppe Viscuso, Mario & Albina Dalla Riva
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen

PARISH DIARY

Tue 5th Mar @ 4.30pm—Confirmation Classes in the Parish Office
 Wed 6th Mar @ 9.15am—Ash Wednesday/Whole School Mass
 Wed 6th Mar @ 7.00pm—Ash Wednesday Parish Mass
 Thurs 7th Mar @ 7.30pm—Confirmation Family Faith Night
 Thurs 7th Mar @ 7.30pm—Scripture Studies in the School Library
 Fri 8th Mar @ 9.15am—School/Parish Mass (Grade 4)
 Fri 8th Mar @ 10am—Stations of the Cross

Eat, Craft and Pray:

The group meets once a month on the last Friday of each month to meditate, craft, eat and engage in friendly conversation in a supportive environment. It is open to ALL.
 Time: 10.30 am to 12.30pm.

RCIA:

Have you ever wondered why we do what we do as Catholics? Or What it means to be Catholic? Have you questions about the sacraments, faith or prayer? Have you wondered about the place of suffering, conscience and the practice of faith? If you have these or other questions, then do come along to The Parish RCIA Evenings. These evenings are not confined only to those wishing to be received into the Catholic Church. If you know of any person(s) whom you can invite, why not invite and come with them to our next Inquiry evening on **7 March at 7.30 pm.**

Lenten Program Year C

Our weekly reflection will take place in the School Library beginning at **7.30pm**

Date	Week	Theme
Thursday 7 March	Week 1	Free to choose
Thursday 14 March	Week 2	Free to follow
Thursday 21 March	Week 3	Free to surprise
Thursday 28 March	Week 4	Free from anger
Thursday 4 April	Week 5	Free to love
Thursday 11 April	Week 6	Free from fear (Palm Sunday Readings)
		Free for life (Easter Triduum)

After School Sacramental Program 2019

Please register your interest for 2019. The fee to cover all administrative and resource cost is \$200 per sacrament per child. Fees payable on enrolment through the Parish Office. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the website or collected from the Parish Office.

Confirmation classes commenced on 12th Feb 2019

Family faith night on Thurs 7th Mar at 7.30pm
 Commissioning Mass on Sat 16th Mar at 5.30pm
Sacrament of Confirmation on Fri 3rd May 2019 at 7pm

Reconciliation classes commence on Tue 21st May 2019 @ 4.30-5.30pm.

Last enrolment date : 14th May 2019

Commissioning Mass on Sat 1st June at 5.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation on Sat 27th July at 10.30am

Eucharist classes commence on Tue 6th Aug 2019 @ 4.30-5.30pm.

Last enrolment date : 30th July 2019

Commissioning Mass on Sat 10th Aug at 5.30pm

Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Sat 26th Oct at 5.30pm

All classes : 4.30pm—5.30pm in the Parish Office.

Liturgy Roster	Sat 5.30pm	Sun 9am	
2/3 March	Sacristan John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng	
	COMMENTATOR Paul Sammut	Maria Papalia	
	Reader May Teh	Yamna Taouk	
	Special Ministers John Bruce	Gabriella Grande	
	Linda Cultrera	Eleanora Mascitti	
	Rene De La Cruz	Pam Mitchell	
		David Mitchell	
		Gloria Ng	
		Maria Papalia	
		Elsa Waters	
9/10 March	Sacristan Elroy	Francis & Gloria Ng	
1 st Sunday in Lent	COMMENTATOR May Teh	Yamna Taouk	
	Reader John Bruce	Grace Canatelli	
	Special Ministers Elroy De Witt	Trish Atherton	
	Corinne Goh	Anne Fusca	
	Jaqueline Kha	Rita Gagliardi	
		Fulvia Gerasolimo	
		Gabriella Grande	
		Eleanora Mascitti	
		Gloria Ng	
DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL'EUCHARISTA
10/03	T. CARAFA S B. PUCCI	FAM. A. BROGNO	C. TRAVAGLINI J. FAGGION T. RECINELLA

Little Sisters of the Poor

Had a collection last weekend and expressed their gratitude for your generosity. The total collection was \$2,485.95.

Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will hold their Annual Mission Concert on Sunday 31 March at the St Peter Claver Hall, 154 Cotham Road, Kew commencing 2pm. Admission is free. A collection will be taken during the Concert. Proceeds will go to assist Sr Donatus Kilole of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ working in the diocese of Nairobi, Kenya, in the very remote village of Timau. Details on the Notice Board.